

NEWS OF NEBRASKA

Items of Interest Gathered From Many Points

Home guards of Bancroft prevented a meeting of the Non-partisan league, scheduled to take place in the city.

S. R. McKelvie of Lincoln, prominent newspaper man, has filed for the republican nomination for governor.

Antelope county has asked the state auditor for permission to invest county funds in Liberty bonds.

Wheat is looking well in Richardson county and seems to have passed the winter in fine condition.

A load of hogs donated to the Red Cross by farmers in the vicinity of Anselmo sold on the South Omaha market for \$1,937.17.

The sum of \$15,000 has been invested in third Liberty loan bonds by officials and employees of the state house at Lincoln.

Frank Eng of St. Edward sold a carload of cattle at the South Omaha market at 16 cents a pound, the highest price paid this year.

Bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000 were voted by Omaha citizens for the construction of a new Commercial High school building.

County Clerk Scott has the data to show that Pawnee county has 27,826 acres of wheat in fine growing condition.

Edgar will have a flag raising April 25, with the 335th regimental band from Camp Funston, which is touring the state.

Rev. George Allenbach, one of the five pastors under fire at Lincoln because of their refusal to attend a patriotic rally, tendered his resignation at a meeting of his congregation.

For the third time Wisner has gone over the top for the sale of Liberty bonds. April 9, the day set for the big drive, carried Wisner over the top by \$30,000.

Fifteen thousand persons, forming a line three miles long, marched in a Liberty day parade at Lincoln. It was the greatest demonstration ever witnessed in the capital city.

Following a patriotic meeting at Decatur a telegram was sent to President Wilson, informing him that the citizens of Decatur were with him in his great task to the end.

Mrs. Margaret Serby, a Lithuanian woman employe at the South Omaha packing plant was severely beaten by another woman employe for alleged insult to the American flag and disloyal utterances.

Many national guardsmen are complaining because they are not being sent abroad to take part in the great Picardy battle and Nebraskaans at Camp Cody are among the complainants.

State Food Administrator Wattles made the assertion at Omaha upon his return from Washington that the government will take steps immediately to requisition all wheat being held in Nebraska.

Coffax county leads in Nebraska in the sale of war savings certificates, according to a report received by State Director Ward M. Burgess, from the Kansas City Federal Reserve bank. Coffax's quota was \$238,000. Cash sales up to April 1 were \$334,145 making a per capita sale of \$28.08. Thayer county stands second in the list with a per capita of \$26.21. Furnas with \$25.41, Adams \$23.18, Platte \$23.05, Johnson \$22.94, Grant \$22.27 and Polk \$21.81, stand next in the list in the order named.

Major John M. Birkner of Lincoln, a German born officer of the Nebraska National Guard and a member of the 127th field artillery was arrested at Camp Cody, N. M., charged with violating the espionage act. Affidavits of four officers who accused Birkner, allege that his pro-German sympathies were expressed at frequent intervals, that he displayed "elation when the German army made successful drives and was depressed when the allies won." He was discharged from the service April 4 and recommended for internment by the War department. The dismissed officer was naturalized in Clay county, Nebraska, in 1888, and during the same year entered the service of the Nebraska National Guard. He is well known throughout Nebraska and the middle west and is said to have had a large circle of friends.

According to available figures the Nebraska farmers' war council now has a membership of over 50,000. Service cards which were sent farmers are being received by the state headquarters at Omaha at the average of 5,000 a day.

An indictment charging George H. Smith, a wealthy Adams county farmer, with having said he was instrumental in forming an organization among farmers to prevent crops from being raised, was returned by a federal grand jury at Lincoln.

C. Byrne, chairman of the State Liberty Loan committee, at Omaha, has offered \$100 in cash prizes to Nebraska school children writing the best 50-word essays explaining why Third Liberty Bonds should be purchased. The prizes are \$50, \$25, \$13 and \$10. The contest closes May 1.

Men actually engaged in raising foodstuffs, whether farmer or hired hand, has no chance to get into the army under instructions sent to local draft boards in Nebraska by Captain Walter L. Anderson of the governor's office.

A movement is under way in Richardson county for the purpose of organizing a county Y. M. C. A.

Nebraska has given \$85,512,463 to the various war campaigns, has 443,231 Red Cross members and has sent a total of 10,942 men to the service.

Buffalo county people are elated over the honor of being the first county in Nebraska to win an honor flag in the third Liberty loan drive.

A number of county food administrators in Nebraska have pledged citizens of their counties to use no more wheat flour until the new wheat crop is harvested.

John Kilcur, pioneer settler of the North Bend vicinity, was found dead in his yard following a fire in his home. It is believed the shock caused his death.

A "Good Roads" fair held at Alliance netted about \$2,000, all of which will be used to better the condition of main roads in Box Butte county.

Records in the office of the state food administrator at Omaha show that only half as much wheat flour is being used in Nebraska as was used a year ago.

Chase and Thurston counties reported on April 11 that Liberty loan bond sales had exceeded the allotment for both counties. Application for honor flags has been made.

The State bank of Seneca, capital \$20,000, and the Farmers State bank of Halsey, capital \$10,000, were granted charters by the state banking board.

Condition of winter wheat in Nebraska on April 1 was 75 per cent of a normal crop, according to a report issued by the department of agriculture at Washington.

The sum of \$10,000 was raised for the Red Cross at an auction sale at Humboldt. An American flag was sold several times and brought \$3,500.

E. T. Hill, rural mail carrier of Odell, sold \$3,848.23 worth of thrift stamps during the first month of this year, leading all other rural carriers in the state for that month.

Lincoln has oversubscribed its Liberty loan quota and the committee has raised voluntarily, Lancaster county's allotment from \$1,545,000 to \$2,000,000, the Capital City agreeing to raise \$1,400,000.

A proposition is to be put before members of the Fremont Methodist church to say whether a new \$40,000 church shall be erected this year. The sum of \$31,000 has already been pledged for the new edifice.

C. H. Peter, a Lincoln street car motorman, alleged to have made disloyal remarks, was taken from his home by fellow employes and forced to give fifty salutes to the American flag and then kiss it.

Estimates place the number of marchers in the Liberty day parade at Omaha at approximately 75,000, and tally that many more people were lined along the principal streets of the city viewing the procession.

The Madison county council of defense has posted placards all over the county announcing that it is opposed to the use of the German language in business transaction or social meetings.

Nebraskans will suffer a serious shortage of coal next winter unless they begin to fill their bins at once and continue accumulating their winter supply during the summer, Washington authorities say.

The first permit granted by the state council of defense under the new sedition law of Nebraska for an alien to preach and teach was issued to John B. Reetens, head of the parochial school at Pickrell.

Manderson Lehr of Albion, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Lehr, who has been doing great service with the French aviation squadron in France, has been honored by promotion from corporal to sergeant.

One thousand citizens of Scottsbluff, at a Liberty loan meeting, passed a resolution petitioning President Wilson and congress to take immediate action to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor.

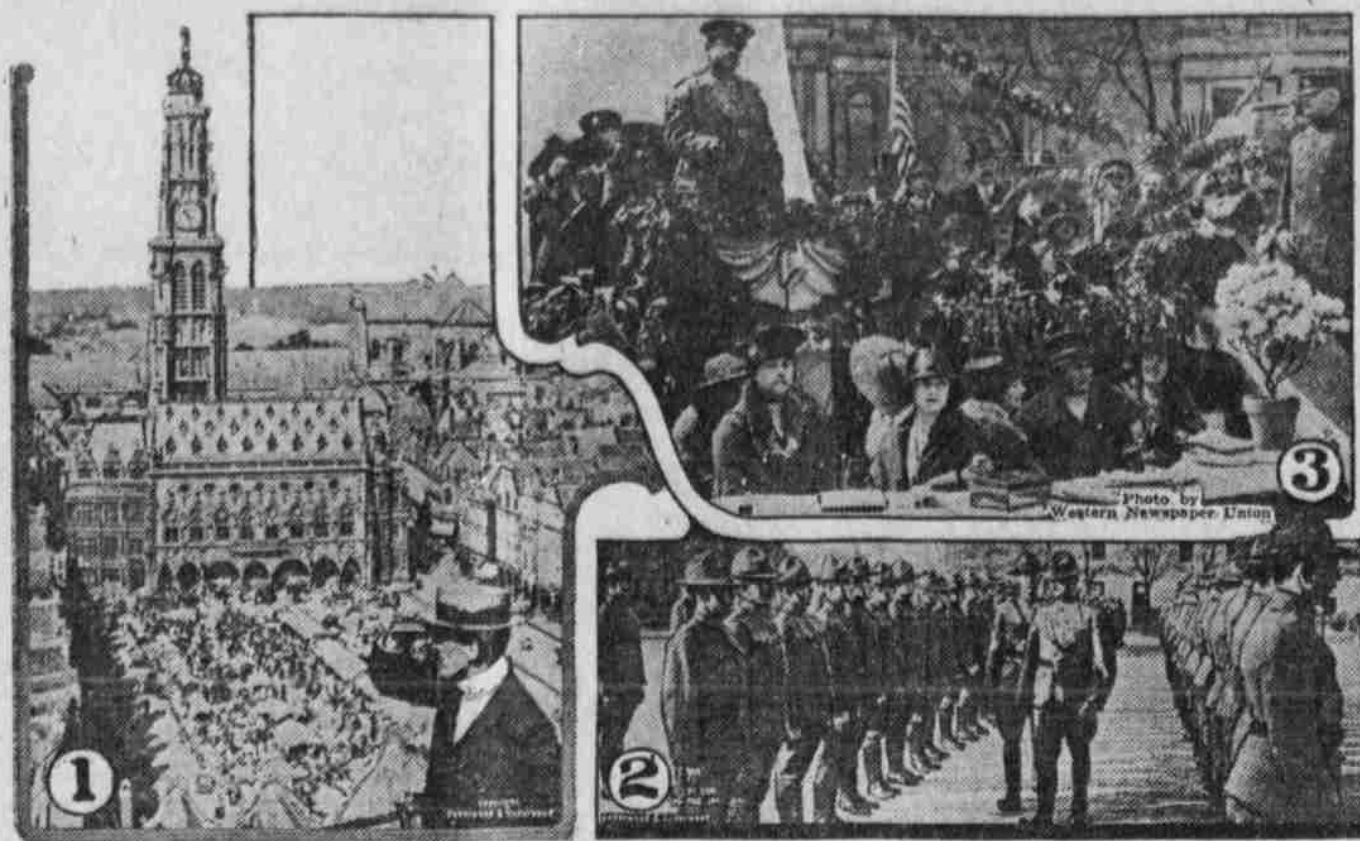
More than 200 boys' and girls' garden clubs will be organized in Nebraska this year for the purpose of helping win the war, according to C. W. Watson, leader of the junior section of the agricultural extension service of the State University.

A voluntary agreement to pay, through the federal food administration of Nebraska, the sum of \$600 to be given the Red Cross and the Red Star by the Fremont Milling company was the penalty assessed for violations of the rules and regulations governing sales of wheat mill feeds.

Upon a request of Director General McAdoo, the Nebraska railway commission has asked city authorities of Omaha not to compel the Missouri Pacific to build a viaduct over Leavenworth street, in that city, until after the war.

Resolutions demanding that the congregations of five German Lutheran churches of Lincoln and vicinity secure as an evidence of their loyalty the resignations of their pastors, who refused to attend a patriotic meeting were passed by over 200 citizens at a mass meeting in the city.

Nebraskans who have done and are doing their bit to help win the war should compare their efforts with those of David Thomas of York. Mr. Thomas has given five sons and a daughter into the service and another son is going as soon as he is of age.



1—Market square and town hall of Arras, which city the Germans tried to take from the British. 2—General Pershing inspected a detachment of his stalwart troops in France. 3—Guy Empey speaking for the Liberty loan in City Hall square, New York, at the opening of the campaign.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Divert Their Attack to Flanders, Again Failing to Break Through.

BLOODY FIGHT AT GIVENCHY

Kaiser Seeks to Annihilate British Army—Americans Now in Great Battle—Premier Lloyd George Proposes Conscription for Ireland.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

"They shall not pass." Not glossing over the increasing seriousness of the German offensive on the west front, not making vain boasts, but with unflinching courage and dogged determination, all the allies, French, British, Americans and Portuguese, in France and Belgium, have adopted the Verdun slogan and refuse to let the Huns break through their line. Weary and battered, drenched with gas and explosive shell, pushed back here and there by powerful attacks of massed infantry, greatly outnumbered all along the line, they cling as long as possible to every defensive position and exact a terrible price for every yard of terrain they give up.

Failing to push his way through to Amiens, the Kaiser last week turned his attention to Flanders, and after three days of intensive bombardment attacked the British on a 25 mile front of which Arras was the center. In the three days of fierce infantry fighting that followed the Huns shoved back the British and Portuguese line some five miles between Arras and Givenchy, and three miles at the north of the former city. On Thursday the British retired from Arras, which is of little importance as a strategic point and is now but a heap of ruins. They also had abandoned several villages but still dominated the battlefield from Messines ridge on the north and Givenchy on the south. The latter place was the scene of the bloodiest fighting, being taken and retaken several times. The British were outnumbered there more than four to one, but defended it splendidly and retained possession of the town, which is situated on high ground. The losses of the Germans here as well as elsewhere were very heavy, and a considerable number of them were captured.

Though the immediate object of the Germans in this sector apparently is to take Bethune, an important center of British operations, and then by a wheeling movement push on to the English channel, their greater purpose, according to prisoners and captured documents, is nothing less than to annihilate the British army. It is expected that the Kaiser will direct his full strength to the accomplishment of this aim and that the battle in Flanders will be considerably extended to the north and continued with desperation.

On the southern front of the German salient the French, at the beginning of the week, withdrew to the west bank of the Aisette river in the Courcy region, thereby rectifying their lines and leaving to the Germans the marshes of the Oise. Since then the enemy have been greatly harassed by the French outposts and have been unable to carry on any operations in the swampy ground. A little further to the west Chauny has been the center of furious struggles but up to the time of writing the French had repulsed every attack, and were in possession of the town and the nearby cemetery.

For the present, at least, Amiens seems to be safe for, though the artillery activity in that sector has been continuous and violent, infantry operations almost ceased during the week.

As has been said, the allies do not seek to minimize the menace in the successes the Huns have gained, but their commanders are as confident as ever that the Kaiser cannot accomplish his aims, and the men in the ranks

have no other thought than victory. The allies have ample supplies of guns and ammunition, but what they must have is more men, and that quickly. England is sending troops across the channel with speed not heretofore equalled, and America's fighters are being hurried up as fast as possible in response to the call. Secretary of War Baker, who is still in France, has learned his lesson, and it is understood he is urging the greatest expedition in getting our army across.

Day by day the American troops are being hurried up to the fighting front and brigaded with the British and French, who greet their arrival with cheers. That they are now taking an active part in the great battle is evidenced by the lengthening casualty lists sent over by General Pershing.

In their own sector the Americans continue to do fine work. On Wednesday, just northwest of Toul, they were subject to the strongest attack the Germans had made in that region, after three days' heavy shelling. The Yankees not only broke up the advancing ranks by their artillery fire, but promptly emerged from their shelters and chased the shattered Hun troops from the field.

The German press has ceased to sneer at American participation in the warfare and admits that this country will be a great factor in determining the result and that it is preparing for a long conflict. The turn events have taken and President Wilson's powerful speech in Baltimore have convinced the Germans that the result of the war is to be determined by force of arms.

Count Czernin, Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, finds his position shaken since Premier Clemenceau disproved his assertions concerning peace talks, and the Czech opposition to him is increasing. In Germany there is growing dissatisfaction with Chancellor Von Hertling and Foreign Secretary Von Kuehlmann, and there is a movement to make Dr. Von Helfferich imperial chancellor.

Germany's forces in Russia, after capturing Kharkov, proceeded 130 miles further to the northwest and occupied Lgov. They then sent an ultimatum demanding the surrender of Kursk, capital of the government of that name, but the local soviet decided to resist. The Germans also are continuing their operations in Finland, in aid of the government and the White guard, and have compelled Russia to remove or disarm Russian warships in Finnish waters.

The bolshevik government of Russia was concerned mostly last week with the landing of Japanese troops in Vladivostok. The press expressed the fear that this was the first step in the occupation of Siberia, and the commissioners demanded that the Japanese depart, threatening otherwise to declare war. If the Japanese really are on conquest bent, they would ask nothing better than that, but America and Great Britain probably stand in the way for they do not wish to have Russia throw herself utterly into the hands of the Germans. Indeed, the foreign consuls at Vladivostok promised the local authorities the troops would be withdrawn soon.

Delayed dispatches from Harbin said American marines also had been landed at Vladivostok and were in control of the docks, while the Japanese were guarding the railway and ammunition depots.

The diet of Bessarabia, the Russian province which borders Roumania on the east, is reported to have voted in favor of union with Roumania. Ukraine has signed an agreement to furnish to the central powers about 63,000,000 pounds of foodstuffs and deliveries of grain already have begun.

George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information, brought a storm about his head by saying, in a public address, that he would thank God for his dying day that the United States was unprepared when it went to war, because otherwise it would have been false to its traditions and policy. In both houses of congress he was denounced bitterly, the senate seemingly overlooking the fact that only a few days previously it had voted to make that state of unpreparedness permanent by refusing to vote for universal military service. Creel made his ex-

traneous statement when acting as spokesman of the administration at a meeting of Liberty loan lecturers, and his dismissal from government employ was demanded by the indignant congressmen.

On Wednesday the senate passed the amendment to the espionage bill, making it the most drastic anti-sedition measure ever proposed in this country. It is designed to expedite punishment for disloyal acts and utterances, but was changed to permit of just criticism with good motives. Fear of antagonizing loyal citizens of German descent caused the elimination of a clause barring from the mails publications in the German language.

The senate had another exciting debate over the conference report on the bill for punishing sabotage and willful destruction of war material. As reported, the measure provided that it should not be construed as making it unlawful for employees to agree together to strike or refuse to work for the purpose of securing better wages or working conditions. Senator Underwood and others strongly criticized any such government indorsements of strikes during wartime. Next day the senate rejected the conference report by a vote of 34 to 25. At the same time Samuel Gompers was warning congressmen not to commit the "deviltry and folly" of passing the proposed law to prohibit strikes and lockouts. Too many of the laboring men of the country fail to recognize the fact that when they are working for the government on war tasks they are doubly working for themselves.

Premier Lloyd George again has staked the political existence of himself and his cabinet on one measure, the new man power bill which includes the conscription of all men between the ages of 18 and 50 years, and which furthermore extends conscription to Ireland. The latter feature of course put the Irish Nationalist members in a rage at once and the premier was warned that any attempt to enforce the draft in Ireland would result in civil war; that it would take an army to raise a regiment. He stood firm, however, declaring the time had come when Ireland must be treated like the rest of Great Britain in the matter of military service, and that if the bill was defeated his government would give way to another. The measure passed its preliminary readings by a large majority, but the press and people of England are decidedly anxious about its success should it become law.

Submarine sinkings as reported by the British admiralty showed a great falling off in number, only six vessels being listed as lost, but both here and abroad there is a feeling that this presages a concerted movement of the U-boat against the transports that are now carrying American troops to France in great numbers. However, the convoy system has been so perfected and so many warships are available for it that no grave apprehension is felt for the safety of those transports.

The Dutch have quieted down concerning the seizure of their vessels by America and Great Britain, but Minister Phillips has left Washington for home, ostensibly on account of ill health.

President Wilson last week commanded the Clyde, Mallory, Merchants and Miners and Southern steamship lines and turned them over to Director General McAdoo. This added 63 coastwise vessels to the 48 already under government management. Three Russian ships in a Pacific port also were taken over by the shipping board.

General Allenby's forces in Palestine are still pushing forward north of Jerusalem, despite stubborn resistance by the Turks, who have been re-enforced by German troops. In Berlin there is a belief that the Holy City will be recaptured, but this is based on false ideas of the British action in failing back after cutting the railway at Es-Salt.

The Liberty Loan campaign was most successful during the week. Iowa lead the nation, subscribing its quota within four days.

LEND YOUR MONEY TO HELP WIN WAR

Help Properly Equip Your Own Son and Other Soldier Boys Over There.

DUTY OF ALL TO BUY BONDS

Liberty Loans to Uncle Sam Is Best Guarantee of Our Fighters Safe Return Home—Do Not Hesitate.

(By ROLAND G. USHER of the Vigilantes.)

Put it to yourself straight now. You know perfectly well that you would feel ashamed to keep your boy out of the ranks if he wanted to go. You know perfectly well that you would probably feel ashamed before your neighbors if they knew that the boy was sticking at home. But have you ever asked yourself whether you felt ashamed that you were keeping your dollars tight in your jeans instead of lending your dollars to the war as well as your boy? If you have not got a boy you probably would feel that he ought to go if you had one. You have got some dollars, why don't you send them?

Think again; if you have sent a boy over there, don't you know for certain whether that boy will come back. God grant that he may. But he went, just the same, knowing fully just as you did that he might not come back. You gave the dearest thing you had in the world to the government freely, for the cause of democracy. You were glad to do it; you felt fine about it. You still feel that if you had it to do over again you would not do anything else. But I will wager anything you like that you have a lot of money that you can lend to the government without hurting yourself at all, and which you are hanging on to until it screams. Think of it. Those dollars will be perfectly sure to come back if you lend them to the government. The government guarantees that. Why should you therefore be so afraid to loose your clutch on them. The great risk you have already taken and did it because it was a worthy and a noble thing to do. The thing which is no risk at all and yet which is just as necessary to the war as the other, you hesitate about.

Dollars Will Come Back. Let me suppose for a moment that you have not yet sent your boy. I will wager you have a sneaking feeling that he ought to go. He has too. In this case, I won't have to make a wager about it—you have not sent your dollars. If you hesitate to send the boy because you are afraid he may not come back, you have a perfectly explainable reason, but you have not got a good reason why you should not send your dollars. They will come back, you may be sure of it. Not only will they come back, the government will pay you interest on them in the meantime. You will lend the government your capital and will get a return on it. Far from losing anything, you will make something. Why hesitate?

Look at it from another point of view. If your boy has not gone, or if you have no son, your neighbors who have sons have sent them. Those boys are going into danger. They are going to need guns, food, artillery, ships, and airplanes, not only to enable them to do what they went over there to do—beat the Germans out of sight—but to keep them safe. If they don't have those things they certainly won't come back at all. You know perfectly well, however tight-fisted you may be, or however mean you may think yourself—and you are not half as mean as that—you would not hurt your neighbor's son just because a few dollars stood in the way. You would feel so ashamed of yourself for the rest of your life you would not be able to shave in the morning. Your neighbors' sons and your friends' sons that you have known all your life need the things your money can buy for them, and it is going to go mighty hard with them if they don't get them.

Make Your Money Help.

Now put it to yourself straight. If the thing was a little nearer to you so that you really saw your neighbor's son actually without food because you had declined to give it to him, you would not hesitate for a moment what to do. The difficulty is here, that the thing is so on large a scale that you do not realize that your failure to lend your money to the government is going to result very probably in depriving that particular boy of things he needs. You can say, if you like, there are so many millions of them that it will be some other fellow's son that will go without. I hope you won't get much comfort out of that, because it is the same old thing. You would not hurt him either if you saw him and knew he was in want; but because you don't see him, because he is somewhere in France, you forget about him and don't stop to think that he wants a thing you would not hesitate to give him if you knew him.

Why hesitate, then, to lend your dollars to the government? They are the only thing that can really do this business. They are the only thing that can put tools into the boys' hands over there to kill the Germans with. Don't hesitate any longer now; get it straight, and go down and buy a bond and feel better about it for the rest of your life.